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Atty. Dkt. No. 039262-0115

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tadahiro OHMI et al.

Title: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE
AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURING THE SAME

Appl. No.: 10/725,063

Filing Date: 12/02/2003

Examiner: Forde, Remmon R.

Art Unit: 2826

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign search report.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

All of the documents are in English.

The listed documents were cited by the examiner in applicants' corresponding European application. A copy of the European Search Report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner is attached.

Applicants respectfully request that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

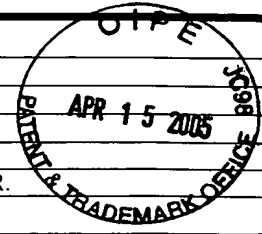
Date April 15, 2005

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number	10/725,063
Date Submitted: April 15, 2005				Filing Date	12/02/2003
(use as many sheets as necessary)				First Named Inventor	Tadahiro OHMI
Sheet 1 of 1				Group Art Unit	2826
				Examiner Name	Forde, Remmon R.
				Attorney Docket Number	039262-0115



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	B1	2002/0052096	A1	ZHANG et al.	05-02-2002	
	B2	2002/0045356	A1	SUZUKI	04-18-2002	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	B3	MEURIS et al., "The Relationship of the Silicon Surface Roughness and Gate Oxide Integrity in NH4OH/H2O2 Mixtures, Japanese Journal of Applied Physics, Vol. 31, No. 11A, Part 2, Nov. 1992, XP000414884.	
	B4	MIYASHITA et al., "Dependence of Thin Oxide Films Quality on Surface Micro-Roughness," 1991 Symposium on VLSI Technology, 28-30 May, 1991, Oiso, Japan, XP010296557.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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